

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Office Action

The Examiner has required election under 35 USC § 121 for prosecution on the merits of a single species selected from the following asserted patentably distinct species: the species of Figure(s) 1/6, Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5A, Figure 5B, Figure 5C, Figure 7 or Figure 8.

II. Summary of this Reply


To expedite prosecution on the merits, Applicant elects the species of Figures 1/6. Claims 1-21 and 23-26 are believed to read thereon, and are hereby elected for prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to pursue in a continuation/divisional application any claims not presently elected, and to later traverse the technical sufficiency of the restriction/election requirement.

CONCLUSION

If any issues remain, the undersigned requests a telephone interview prior to the issuance of an action.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 27, 2004


Gary A. Hecht
Reg. No. 36,826
Gregory S. Bernabeo
Reg. No. 44,032

Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP
2600 Aramark Tower
1101 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Telephone: (215) 923-4466
Facsimile: (215) 923-2189